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Applicant: Advocate et al.

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Serial No.: 10/690,759

Art Unit: 2625

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Examiner: Beckley, Jonathan R.

Title: FACSIMILE SYSTEM, METHOD AND
PROGRAM PRODUCT WITH JUNK
FAX DISPOSAL

Docket No.: FIS920030224US1
(IBMF-0024)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Sir:

I. INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS:

The following proposed amendment to independent claim is intended to assist in the scheduled interview of 27 August 2009. Applicants respectfully request consideration of the following proposed amendment.

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II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of handling a facsimile image received by a facsimile system, the method comprising the steps of:

comparing a junk fax image stored in a junk fax database to an incoming facsimile image, wherein the junk fax database includes a plurality of junk fax images likely to be found in the incoming facsimile image;

disposing of the incoming facsimile image in the case that the junk fax image matches at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image;

wherein if a match does not exist, the method further comprises:

determining whether the incoming facsimile is of a junk fax by displaying at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image before outputting the image, wherein the outputting includes printing the incoming facsimile image through the facsimile system;

allowing a recipient to view the at least a portion of the displayed image to determine whether the incoming facsimile image is of a junk fax;

saving at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image as a junk fax image in the junk fax database in the case that the incoming facsimile image is of a junk fax;

calculating a toner count of at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image; and

processing the incoming facsimile image in the case that the toner count is below a threshold.

9. (Currently Amended) A facsimile system comprising:

a receiver configured to receive an incoming facsimile image; and

a junk fax analyzer comprising:

a comparator configured to compare a junk fax image to the incoming facsimile image;

a disposal configured to dispose of the incoming facsimile image in the case that the junk fax image matches at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image; and

a junk fax determinator configured to determine whether the incoming facsimile image is a junk fax, and save at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image as a junk fax image in a junk fax database in the case that the incoming facsimile image is a junk fax and the at least a portion is likely to be repeated in a future incoming facsimile image;

wherein the junk fax determinator includes:

a display configured to display at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image before the image is outputted; wherein the outputting includes printing the incoming facsimile image through the facsimile system;

an interface configured to allow a recipient to view the at least a portion of the displayed image to input whether the incoming facsimile image is a junk fax; and

a selector configured to allow the recipient to select at least a portion of the incoming facsimile image to be saved as the junk fax image.

III. REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request consideration of the proposed amendments contained herein. Included are proposed amendments to claims 1 and 9. Claim 17 would be amended similarly to claim 1. Applicants would like to thank Examiner Beckley and Supervisor Haskins in advance for their time and consideration of these amendments in view of the cited references. Applicants look forward to the forthcoming interview.

Respectfully submitted,

/ Matthew B. Pinckney /

Date: 27 August 2009

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